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Dated: May 11, 2006

Signature:

(Marco Jimenez)

Docket No.: 514312000400  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD,  
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS  
AND COMPUTER-READABLE MEMORY  
MEDIUM

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.